

School Nutrition Programs

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MASBO – June 2012



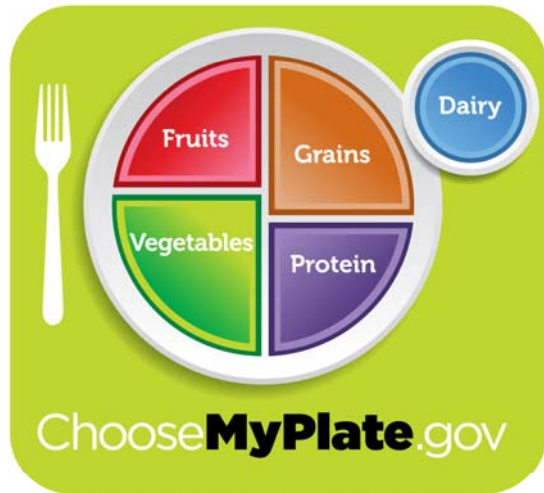
Agenda

- Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA)
 - New Meal Patterns
 - Additional Six Cent Reimbursement
 - Equity in School Lunch Pricing
 - Direct Certification & Verification

NEW MEAL PATTERNS

Teresa Motlas

Why are Meal Patterns Changing?



▣ **New meal pattern:**

in line with 2010 Dietary Guidelines for Americans

- ▣ increased focus on fruit, vegetables and whole grains
- ▣ decreased consumption of saturated fat, trans fat and sodium
- ▣ balanced calories

New Meal Pattern

- Food based meal pattern
 - Fruits and vegetables are counted as *separate* food components.
 - Increased portion size
 - Increased focus on variety over the week
 - Half of the grains over the week need to be whole grains
 - Milk served must be a variety of fat contents (1% and skim). Flavored milk must be skim.

New Meal Pattern

- Specific grade groups (K-5, 6-8, 9-12)
 - Food portions are based on specific age groups.
 - Helps keep calories & nutrients balanced.
 - Enables schools to provide age-appropriate meals.
 - Allows for flexibility.

New Meal Pattern

- A one-week menu cycle and production records will be analyzed to assess compliance with the new meal pattern and to certify schools for additional six cent reimbursement.
- There is no opting out of meal pattern changes.

ADDITIONAL SIX CENT REIMBURSEMENT

Sofia Janik

Background - HHFKA

- Requires SFAs follow the updated meal patterns (rule published January 26, 2012)
- Provides performance-based reimbursement for SFAs that demonstrate compliance with updated meal pattern – this includes both lunch and breakfast
- Additional reimbursement is available October 1, 2012
- 6 cents reimbursement will be adjusted beginning July 2013

Certification

- SFAs must submit:
 - One week of menus for each menu type offered
 - Detailed menu worksheet
 - Simplified Nutrient Assessment of calories and saturated fat for each menu type

- Simplified nutrient assessment will serve as a proxy for a nutrient analysis.

Certification Documentation

▣ Menu Type:

For each certification option, SFAs must submit one week of each menu offered (for both breakfast and lunch) within the SFA, by age grade group.

▣ Example:

If a SFA serves an elementary, middle and high school menu for lunch and one menu for breakfast, the SFA must submit four menus and four menu worksheets.

Certification Documentation- Attestation

- As part of certification, SFAs must attest that:
 - They are in compliance with all current meal pattern requirements.
 - Documentation is representative of the ongoing meal service within the SFA.
 - The minimum required food quantities for all meal components are available to students in every serving line.

Certification – OPI Responsibilities

- OPI may not approve/deny certification until July 1, 2012.
- SFAs can start earning 6 cents reimbursement October 1, 2012.

Certification – OPI Responsibilities

- For applications submitted on or before September 30, 2012, the State agency has 60 days from October 1, 2012 to review certification materials and make a determination.

Certification – OPI Responsibilities

■ Example:

If menus for the week of March 15-19, 2013 are certified in May 2013, the State agency must retroactively reimburse the additional 6 cents for all lunches served on or after March 1, 2013.

SY 2012-13 Validation Reviews

- Validation reviews are only required in SY 2012-13
- During a validation review, OPI must:
 - Observe a meal service for each type of menu certified.
 - Review the school production records for observed meals.
 - Review the documentation submitted for certification.
- Twenty-five percent of SFAs will be reviewed before June 30, 2013.

SY 2012-13 Validation Reviews

If corrective action is required during a review:

- And corrective action does occur immediately
 - 6 cents is not turned off for future months, however 6 cents from previous months will be returned to the state.

- And corrective action does not occur immediately
 - 6 cents must be turned off for future months and schools must re-apply for certification.

EQUITY IN SCHOOL MEAL PRICING

Emily Dunklee

What is it?

How does it impact your school?

- The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010
- Difference between paid, free, and reduced-price reimbursement
- Historically, prices charged for paid meals have been lower than the cost to produce these meals, and so funds received for free & reduced meals often end up subsidizing the paid meals.

Paid Lunch Equity

- Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) is an annual calculation.
- For SY 2012-2013, districts which, on average, charged less than **\$2.51** for paid lunches are required to adjust their weighted average lunch price or add non-Federal funds to the non-profit school food service account.

What To Do

- For school year 2012-2013, SFAs charging, on average, less than \$2.51 for lunch must:
 - Ensure sufficient funds are provided for paid meals
 - By raising prices OR
 - By contributing non-federal sources to the food service account

How

- Use the 2012-13 Weighted Average Price PLE Tool

You Will Need...

- ▣ Paid lunch prices for SY 2011-12
- ▣ # of paid lunches served in October 2011 for each price range
- ▣ If you did not complete your paid lunch equity in SY 2011-12:
 - ▣ Paid lunch prices for SY 2010-11
 - ▣ # of paid lunches served in October 2010 for each price range

2011-12 PLE Tool



Paid Lunch Equity Tool for SY 2011-12 ONLY

Current Weighted Average Price Calculator

Enter current prices and number of lunches sold at each price using October 2010 data.

	Monthly # of Paid Lunches	Paid Lunch Price	Monthly Revenue	Current Weighted Average Price
1.			\$ -	
2.			\$ -	
3.			\$ -	
4.			\$ -	
5.			\$ -	
6.			\$ -	
7.			\$ -	
8.			\$ -	
9.			\$ -	
10.			\$ -	
TOTAL	-		\$ -	\$ -

Did you complete this?

New Average Price Requirement (not rounded down to nearest 5 cents)	New Average Price Requirement (rounded down to nearest 5 cents)
\$ -	No change

Note: New Average Price calculations include mandatory 2% rate increase plus 1.14% inflation rate

Pricing Estimation Calculator

Below is a tool allowing users to manipulate prices to achieve the required new weighted average price.

	Monthly # of Paid Lunches	Paid Lunch Price	Weighted Average Price
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
TOTAL	-		\$ -

2010-11 weighted average price - use this number in the new 2012-13 tool!

SY 2013-2014 weighted average price requirements.

Please print and keep in records.

NOTE: If information is changed in the tool, the report contents will change.

Section 1: SY2012-2013 Weighted Average Paid Price Requirements

A. SY 2012-13 Weighted Average Price Requirement*:

**This price will be entered into the SY 2013-2014 tool to determine the SY2013-2014 weighted average price requirements*

\$0.00

B. Optional Price ROUNDED DOWN to nearest 5 cents:

\$0.00

Section 2: Amounts Carried Forward to SY 2013-2014

Select the SY 2012-2013 method used to ensure sufficient funds are provided for
PAID Lunches

PLETool Demo

[http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School Nutrition/](http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School_Nutrition/)

DIRECT CERTIFICATION

Alie Wolf

Direct Certification

- Direct certification is the process that School Districts use to certify children who are members of households receiving assistance (SNAP, TANF or FDPIR) as eligible for free school meals. Certification is based on information provided by the State/local agency administering the assistance program.
- Families that are directly certified do not have to complete a free & reduced application.

Montana's Current Direct Certification Process

- School Nutrition Programs emails a SNAP report to each school district's determining official at the scheduled time.
- The SNAP reports are emailed through the state of Montana's ePass Service – a secure file transfer system.
- Please notify Alie Wolf for any changes in staff or email addresses at aliew@mt.gov or 444-4413.

Direct Certification - Timeline

Districts must conduct direct certification with SNAP three times during the school year:

- At or around the beginning of the school year (July)
 - *The July SNAP report identifies children's names.*
- Three months after the beginning of the school year (October)
- Six months after the beginning of the school year (January)

Letter Method

- Department of Public Health and Human Services SNAP letters may *no longer* be used for direct certification.
- If a household provides a SNAP letter to the district it must be used in lieu of an application to certify the household for free meals.
- SNAP letters are now approved as **Categorically Eligible** for free meals and are subject to the verification process.

Enhancement coming to the Direct Certification Process

- OPI School Nutrition Programs was recently awarded a grant from the USDA to improve our direct certification matching process.
- A Direct Certification Web Application will be the end result and is scheduled to be completed by December 2013.

Verification

- Verification is the process by which districts confirm the eligibility of a sample of approved applications for free and reduced-price school meals.
- The previous school year's percentage of household responses determines the verification method your district is able to complete for this school year.
- The verification information will be mailed to districts in August.

Verification - Timeline

- **October 1st** - Count the number of approved free and reduced applications/students for each category and record on the Summary of Verification form. *Note: there are three Free categories - Directly Certified, Categorically Eligible and Free based on income.*
- **October 1st – November 15th**
 - Calculate & draw the required number of randomly selected applications
 - Send the prototype Notification of Selection for Verification letters to the selected households
 - Gather/confirm household's proof of eligibility responses
 - Send the prototype Notification of Verification Results letter to the households and
 - Document results on the Summary of Verification form

Verification Due - November 15th

■ November 15th

- Districts must complete and send the Summary of Verification form OPI -School Nutrition Programs.

■ After November 15th

- Late submissions must request an extension from OPI by completing the Verification Deadline Extension Request Form found on the OPI School Nutrition web site.

■ After December 15th

- Submission extensions beyond December 15th must be submitted to OPI and approved by the USDA.

Free and Reduced-Price Application Reminders

- Foster children are now counted as categorical eligible.
- Households eligible for meal benefits at the beginning of the school year are eligible for the entire school year. Districts do not need remove households that drop off SNAP Report program mid-year.
- The annual Free and Reduced Application materials will be available after July 1st.
- Please be sure to use the updated Free and Reduced Application and prototype letters.